

around the world.” See, we’ve got 5 percent of the world’s people here in the United States, which means 95 percent are potential customers. And therefore, it’s important for us to be aggressive about opening up markets.

And my message to the world is this: Just treat us the way we treat you. That’s all we expect. We just want the rules to be fair—because I believe this country can compete with anybody, anytime, anywhere, so long as the rules are fair.

So Mike asked me to come and talk about ways to make sure we’re competitive. He said, “What are you going to do, Mr. President? There you are; things are going okay now, but what about 5 years from now; what will the world look like?” And I hope here are some good ideas for you to think about, about how to make sure that the United States is competitive.

In the meantime, it’s important for Presidents to embrace the Jones Act. Sacco’s constantly talking to me about that. I have, so far, 5½ years as the President, supported the Jones Act and will continue to do so as the President.

I can’t help but look at a man over there in uniform and think about our military right now on Labor Day. First, thank you for serving. And our soldiers and sailors and Coast Guard men and marines and Air Force have got to understand this—that this country supports them in the mission; that they may hear all the political discourse going on, but the people of this country, the people of the United States of America stand squarely behind the men and women who wear our uniform. And on Labor Day, we think about those who are sacrificing for our freedom and peace, and we think about their families too.

And so I want to thank you for greeting me. I look forward to coming to say hello to you. I appreciate you taking time out of your day to say hi. I know you’re a little disappointed that Laura didn’t come. [*Laughter*] You probably wish she’d have come and I stayed at home. [*Laughter*] But she sends her greetings. God bless you all, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:38 a.m. at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Maritime Training and Education. In his remarks, he referred to Michael Sacco, president, Seafarers International Union of North America, AFL–CIO.

### **Memorandum on Transfers of Defense Articles and Services in Support of Sudan Security Sector Transformation (SST) Program**

*August 28, 2006*

Presidential Determination No. 2006–22

#### *Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Transfers of Defense Articles and Services in Support of Sudan Security Sector Transformation (SST) Program

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 40(g) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), I hereby:

- Determine that the transaction, encompassing transfers of defense articles and services, funded by United States Government assistance, necessary for an SST program for the Government of Southern Sudan that will support transformation of the Sudan People’s Liberation Army from a guerrilla force into a smaller, conventional force is essential to the national security interests of the United States. Such transfers include the provision of vehicles and communications equipment; power generation; facilities construction/renovation; training and technical assistance; recommendations for force structure, training, equipment, infrastructure, and resource management; and other defense articles and services in support of military reform in Southern Sudan, including support to the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement;
- Waive the prohibitions in section 40 of the AECA related to such transaction; and
- Assign to you the functions under section 40(g)(2) of the AECA to consult with and submit reports to the Congress

for proposed specific exports or transfers, 15 days prior to permitting them to proceed, that are necessary for and within the scope of this determination and the transaction referred to herein.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 11, 2006]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 5 and will publish in the *Federal Register* on September 12.

**Remarks Following Discussions With  
Amir Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-  
Sabah of Kuwait**  
*September 5, 2006*

**President Bush.** Your Highness, thank you for coming. It's been my honor to welcome you and your delegation here to the Oval Office. I congratulate you for taking on the very important responsibilities of our close friend and ally, Kuwait.

We've had a important strategic dialog about how to work together to promote peace and stability in the Middle East. I thank you for your leadership. I congratulate you for your steady reforms in your country. They have served as a notable example for others in the region. I thank you very much for your steadfast support of our United States military. It means a lot, Your Highness, to know that we can count on your friendship.

I appreciated your advice on a variety of matters. His Highness has got a clear vision about how we can work together strategically as well as commercially. And I want to thank you for that vision. I assured His Highness that I fully understand that the United States has an obligation to work to promote the peace. And we will work to promote the peace with our friends.

And so I welcome you here, sir. It's great to see you again. And I'm honored that you would take time to visit me.

**Amir Sabah.** Thank you very much, Mr. President. I would like really to express my

gratitude on my own behalf and the behalf of the delegation that accompanying me for this kind invitation. We have conducted a very fruitful talk. We have covered several issues, bilateral issues, economic issues related to strengthening the bilateral relation between our two countries. And also we have discussed some regional matters related with the aim of both of us to achieve stability in the region.

Yes, I do agree that there are differences between points of view from the United States and some of our region. But, nevertheless, I would like also to say that there are differences between ourselves, the region. But the goal is to achieve peace and security, and we have seen in a lot of our positions that we are seeing our—the positions eye to eye. Therefore, I am very grateful for the outcome of this visit.

**President Bush.** Thank you, sir. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:54 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. Amir Sabah spoke in Arabic, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

**Remarks to the Military Officers  
Association of America**

*September 5, 2006*

Thank you all. Please be seated. General Hendrix, thank you for the invitation to be here. Thanks for the kind introduction. I'm honored to stand with the men and women of the Military Officers Association of America. I appreciate the board of directors who are here and the leaders who have given me this platform from which to speak. I'm proud to be here with active members of the United States military. Thank you for your service. I'm proud to be your Commander in Chief.

I want to—pleased also to stand with members of the diplomatic corps, including many representing nations that have been attacked by Al Qaida and its terrorist allies since September the 11th, 2001. Your presence here reminds us that we're engaged in a global war against an enemy that threatens all civilized nations. And today, the civilized world stands together to defend our freedom; we stand together to defeat the terrorists; and